

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 04916 250959 Z

12

ACTION DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

IO-12 RSR-01 /090 W

----- 016274

R 250610 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9169

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 4916

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: MOPS VS

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE RELEASE OF US PW' S IN BINH DINH PROVINCE

THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM AMCONGEN NHA TRANG

DATED MARCH 23 IS REPEATED HERE FOR YOUR ACTION

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NHA TRANG 306

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS VS

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE RELEASE OF US PW' S IN BINH DINH PROVINCE

USSAG FOR JCRC

REF: A. CDR JCRC NKP 191002 Z MAR 73

B. AMEMBASSY SAIGON 4336/161030 Z MAR 73

C. AMCONSUL NHA TRANG 0158/150750 Z MAR 73 ( NOTAL)

1. QUI NHON POLOFF VISITED BINH KHE AND PHU CAT SUBSECTORS  
MAR 14-15 AND 15-16 RESPECTIVELY IN ATTEMPT TO FOLLOW UP ON  
ORIGINAL REPORT GIVEN HIM BY BINH DINH SECTOR S-2 ( REFS B AND C)  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 04916 250959 Z

2. NEITHER OF SUBSECTOR S-2' S HAD KNOWLEDGE OF SECTOR REPORT; INFORMATION THEREIN WAS EVIDENTLY ACQUIRED DIRECTLY BY SECTOR AND HAD NOT BEEN DISSEMINATED TO SUBSECTOR S-2' S NOR OTHER KNOWLEDGEABLE PERSONS IN AREA ( E. G., CHIEF, US ELEMENT FPJMT, PHU CAT) HAD ANY INDEPENDENT INFORMATION REGARDING POSSIBLE PRESENCE OF ANY US PW' S IN AREAS CITED OR ELSEWHERE IN BINH DINH. ( GVN/ ARVN SOURCES IN THE TWO SUBSECTORS ARE CONVINCED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE ARE MANY MORE ARVN BEING HELD IN SUBJECT AREAS THAN THE 400 WHO WERE RELEASED TO GVN IN AN LAO EXCHANGE MAR 10-11. THESE ARVN WOULD BE PRINCIPALLY FW' S CAPTURED DURING ENEMY' S 1972 SPRING OFFENSIVE AND ARVN' S SUMMER COUNTEROFFENSIVE.)

3. WITH RESPECT TO COORDINATES GIVEN IN BINH DINH SECTOR S-2 REPORT: POLOFF NOTES THAT A LINE DRAWN FROM SOME POINT WEST OF QL-1 ON QUANG NGAI/ BINH DINH BORDER SOUTH THROUGH SITE OF ACTUAL MAR 10-11 EXCHANGE TO COORDINATES MENTIONED REF B IN SUOI CA AND VINH THANH VALLEYS AND THEN WESTWARD ALONG ROUTE 19 TO PLEIKU BORDER WOULD DELINEATE A SIZABLE CHUNK OF NORTHWEST AND WEST- CENTRAL BINH DINH, AN AREA TO WHICH PRG WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY LIKE TO LAY CLAIM. DRV/ PRG BEHAVIOR DURING MAR 10-11 AN LAO EXCHANGE ( NHA TRANG 0132, NOTAL) IN FACT DEMONSTRATES PRG DESIRE TO USE AGREED EXCHANGE SITE AS BASIS FOR TERRITORIAL CLAIM.

4. POLOFF THEREFORE BELIEVES BINH DINH SECTOR S-2' S INFORMATION-- WHICH, POLOFF EMPHASIZES AGAIN, CAME FROM LOW- LEVEL CIVILIAN SOURCE-- MAY BE MORE PLAUSIBLE WITH RESPECT TO GEOGRAPHY AND PRG TERRITORIAL DESIGNS THAN WITH RESPECT TO PRESENCE OF ANY US PW' S.  
ENGLE  
UNQUOTE  
BUNKER

CONFIDENTIAL

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 MAR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973SAIGON04916  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** SAIGON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730338/aaaaihv.tel  
**Line Count:** 98  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION DPW  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <05-Dec-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <28-Dec-2001 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971230  
**Subject:** POSSIBLE RELEASE OF US PW' S IN BINH DINH PROVINCE  
**TAGS:** MOPS  
**To:** DPW  
**SECSTATE WASHDC**  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005